

Lopit language

The **Lopit language** is an Eastern Nilotic language spoken by around 50,000 people in Eastern Equatoria State, South Sudan.^[3] Lopit is part of the Lotuko-Teso subfamily and is related to Lotuko, Turkana and Maasai.^[4] Lopit is a VSO language and has a complex tonal system.^[5]

The Lopit language has six different dialects: Ngabori spoken by Ngabori sub community, Dorik spoken by Dorik Sub community, Ngotira spoken by Ngotira sub community, Lomiaha spoken by Lomiaha Sub community, Lohutok spoken by Lohutok sub community, and Lolongo spoken by Lolongo sub community. However, some small sub communities or villages for instance Loming, Ahado, Oriaju, Hidonge and may also involved Atarangi who speak Lotuko because of their proximity to the neighboring Lotuko community

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Phonology

Vowels

Lopit has 5 vowels: a, e, i, o, u.^[6]

Consonants

Lopit	
Region	Southern Sudan
Ethnicity	Lopit people
Native speakers	(50,000 cited 1995) ^[1]
Language family	Nilo-Saharan? ▪ Eastern Sudanic ▪ Nilotic ▪ Eastern Nilotic ▪ Teso–Lotuxo–Maa ▪ Lotuxo ▪ Lopit
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	lpx
Glottolog	lopi1242 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/lopi1242) ^[2]

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Stop</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	p	t		k	
	<u>voiced</u>	b	d		g	
<u>Affricate</u>	<u>voiceless</u>			tʃ		
	<u>voiced</u>			dʒ		
<u>Fricative</u>			s			h
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n	ɲ	ŋ	
<u>Approximant</u>		w	l	j		
<u>Trill</u>			r			

Grammar

Lopit has vowel harmony for prepositions. Prepositions have the suffix /o/ with vowels /o, u/, /e/ with /e, i/, and /a/ with /a/.^[7]

Example:

ta ranga - the bow

to bok - from stable

te heju - with legs

References

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 4. Ethnologue.com family lineage for Lopit (http://www.ethnologue.com/show_lang_family.asp?code=lpx)
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